IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 11 - 14, 19 – 20, 22 – 24, and 27 – 31 and AMEND claims 1, 10, 16 -18 and 21 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical information storage medium comprising:

a lead-in area;

a lead-out area; and

a user data area formed between the lead-in and lead-out areas and in which user data is recorded,

wherein

pits are formed in tracks in the lead-in area, the user data area, and the lead-out area, and

a first track pitch between adjacent tracks in a portion of the lead-in area is different from a second track pitch between adjacent tracks in ~~remaining areas of the optical information storage medium~~another portion of the lead-in area.

2. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 1, wherein the first track pitch is greater than the second track pitch.

3. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 2, wherein the lead-in area comprises a first subarea in which optical information storage medium-related information is recorded and a second subarea in which copy protection information is recorded, wherein a track pitch in at least one of the subareas is the first track pitch.

4. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 3, wherein a ratio of tracking error signals detected in the at least one of the first and second subareas having the first track pitch to tracking error signals detected in areas having the second track pitch is 1.5 or more.

5. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 4, wherein a ratio of differential phase tracking error signals detected in the at least one of the first and second subareas having the first track pitch to differential phase tracking error signals detected in the areas having the second track pitch is 1.5 or more.

6. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 1, wherein the lead-in area comprises a first subarea in which optical information storage medium-related information is recorded and a second subarea in which copy protection information is recorded, wherein a track pitch in at least one of the first and second subareas is the first track pitch which is greater than the second track pitch.

7. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 6, wherein a ratio of tracking error signals detected in the at least one of the first and second subareas having the first track pitch to tracking error signals detected in the areas having the second track pitch is 1.5 or more.

8. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 7, wherein a ratio of differential phase tracking error signals detected in the at least one of the first and second subareas having the first track pitch to differential phase tracking error signals detected in the areas having the second track pitch is 1.5 or more.

9. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 1, wherein the optical information storage medium has more than one recording surface.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical information storage medium for recording data in tracks, comprising:

a lead-in area;

a lead-out area; and

a user data area;

wherein a first area of the lead-in area in which first data is recorded in corresponding first tracks, adjacent pairs of the first tracks having a first track pitch; and

a second area of the lead-in area in which second data is recorded in corresponding second tracks, adjacent pairs of the second tracks having a second track pitch other than the first track pitch,

wherein pits are formed in the tracks of the first area and second area.

11 - 14. (CANCELED)

15. (ORIGINAL) The optical information storage medium of claim 10, wherein the first data comprises information used in reproduction of the second data.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical information storage medium of claim 10, wherein the ~~second area includes a~~ user data area ~~of the optical information storage medium~~ has a track pitch that is the same as the second track pitch.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical information storage medium of claim 16, wherein the first data comprises information used in reproduction of ~~the second data~~user data recorded in the user data area.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical information storage medium of claim 16, wherein the ~~second area includes a~~ lead-out area ~~disposed outside of the user data area, the lead-out area including~~includes additional data ~~other than the second data~~ and has a track pitch that is the same as the second track pitch.

19 - 20. (CANCELLED)

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus to optically transfer data with respect to an optical information storage medium that comprises a lead-in area, a lead-out area and a user data area, the apparatus comprising:

an optical unit to ~~transfer~~ read first data ~~with respect to~~from first tracks in a first area of the lead-in area, and to read ~~of the optical information storage medium, and to transfer~~ second data ~~with respect to~~from second tracks in a second area of the ~~optical information storage medium other than the first~~lead-in area; and

a controller to control the optical unit to ~~transfer~~ read the first and second data ~~with respect to~~from the corresponding first and second areas,

wherein:

adjacent pairs of the first tracks have a first pitch,

adjacent pairs of the second tracks have a second pitch other than the first pitch

and

wherein pits are formed in the tracks of the first area and second area.

22 - 24. (CANCELED)

25. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the first data comprises information used by the controller in reproduction of the second data.

26. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein:

the controller uses a differential signal to perform tracking when transferring the first and/or second data with respect to the optical information storage medium,

a first differential signal detected from the first data recorded in the first tracks is other than a second differential signal detected from the second data recorded in the second tracks.

27 - 31. (CANCELED)